

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-10 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07

NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02

OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 /108 W

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P R 121056Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4642

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 7204

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, CG, BE

SUBJ: BELGIAN PLANS FOR BOP ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE

REF: STATE 187088

1. DURING CALL ON FONMIN AFRICA CHIEF LEBRUN AUGUST 11, HE REPEATED TO US INFO REFTEL THAT BELGIAN GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PACKAGE FOR ZAIRE WAS STILL IN EARLY PLANNING STAGES. HE REVIEWED BELGIAN VIEW OF INTERNAL GOZ TENDENCIES FOR (DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL BANK) AND AGAINST (MOBUTU'S CHEF DE CABINET) MOVEMENT TOWARD IMF SOLUTION. HE UNDERLINED BELGIUM'S PREFERENCE FOR IMF INVOLVEMENT, AS ONLY EFFECTIVE WAY BELGIAN GOVERNMENT COULD EFFECTIVELY ASSIST ZAIRE.

2. LEBRUN REPEATED HIS INTEREST IN VISITING DEPARTMENT WITHOUT SUGGESTING DATES AT THIS TIME. IN RESPONSE TO OUR REPEATING THAT HIS VISIT WOULD BE WELCOME BUT THAT
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DISCRETION IN CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE NECESSARY TO AVOID GIVING

ZAIRE ANY GROUNDS FOR THINKING US AND BELGIUM WERE GANGING UP, HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED ENTIRELY. INCIDENTALLY, WHEN LEBRUN VISITS DEPARTMENT A FRENCH-ENGLISH INTERPRETER WOULD BE USEFUL.

3. JAENEN (FONMIN ZAIRE DESK OFFICER) TOLD US IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION AUGUST 11 THAT DATE FOR PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO ZAIRE WAS NOT YET SET, BUT WOULD MOST LIKELY TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER. QUESTION OF HAVING AN AMBASSADOR IN KINSHASA IS NO LONGER A FACTOR IN BELGIAN THINKING. BELGIANS NOW CONSIDER KERREMAN'S DEPARTURE "NORMAL" AS HE HAS OFFICIALLY BEEN TRANSFERRED. BELGIAN GOVERNMENT WILL SEEK AGREEMENT FOR A REPLACEMENT AFTER IT REVIEWS AND SELECTS FROM AMONG CANDIDATES UPON FOREIGN MINISTER'S RETURN FROM VACATION IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

4. BELGIANS HAVE NO INFO TO DATE ON RESULTS OF GISCARD'S VISIT TO ZAIRE BEYOND WHAT HAS APPEARED IN PRESS. RENNER

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